



***REGIONAL EMPOWERMENT, ECONOMIC GROWTH:***  
**Accessing Technology in the Delta Region**



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**Speaker Bios**

**John W. Ahlen**  
**Biographical Sketch**

John Ahlen is President of the Arkansas Science & Technology Authority, a position he has held since 1984. The Authority is a state instrumentality with the mission to bring the benefits of science and advanced technology to the people and state of Arkansas. The Authority's programs include funding scientific research, technology transfer and development, and seed capital investments.

For a year beginning in mid-1997, John was the ASME State-Federal Technology Fellow at the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy.

Before moving to Arkansas, John was Assistant Director for Science and Technology at the Illinois Legislative Council, where he directed the Council's Science Unit and worked on energy, environmental, and natural resource issues.

He is a 1969 graduate of the University of Illinois at Chicago Circle, in bioengineering, and received his Ph.D. in physiology in 1974 from the University of Illinois at the Medical Center.